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Já Basta!

Enough Is Enough!

¡Basta!

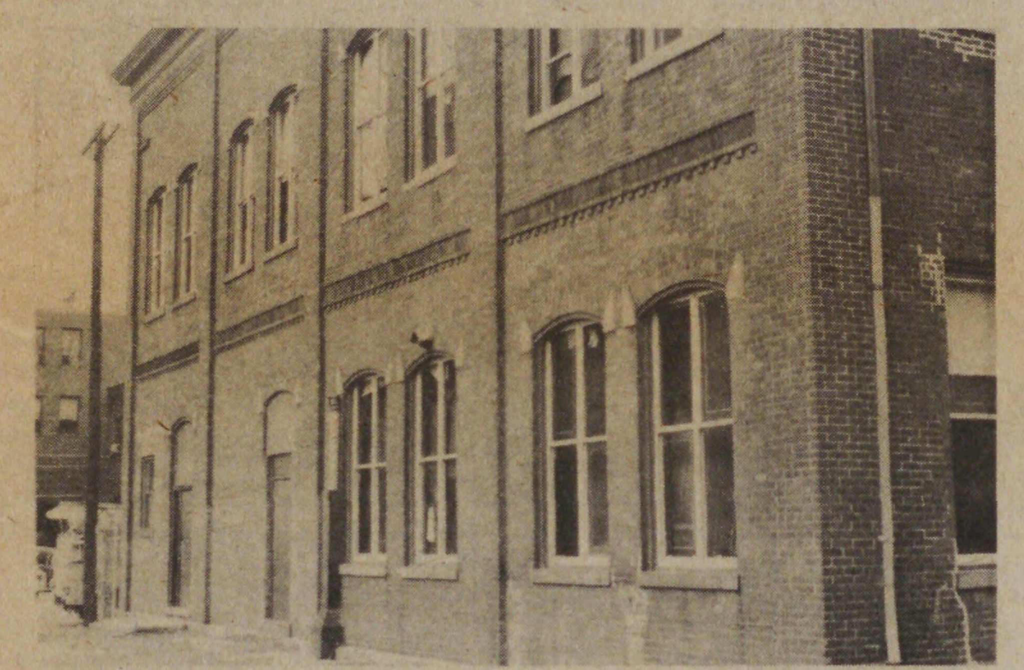
ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!

Another explosion on January 6 has focused attention on At Sea Incineration's plan for a huge toxic waste tank farm and processing facility they want to build in Ironbound. Assemblyman Raymond Lesniak (D-Union) has said he will introduce a law that will stop At Sea's plans. Mr. Lesniak pointed out that to put another major toxic waste facility in the middle of the Newark-Elizabeth-Jersey City area would be **"just waiting for a tragedy to happen."** This area has recently been the site of a number of major accidents involving toxic or hazardous materials.



The explosion on January 6 could be heard 100 miles away and sent a dense cloud of black smoke into the air that could be seen for miles. The NJDEP declared a pollution alert in Passaic and Bergen counties but refused to acknowledge that the fumes were being breathed by people in the Newark-Jersey City area. The fire was caused by an overflowing storage tank. The initial spark that started the fire probably came from a facility also located in Ironbound, that has been cited by the DEP and EPA for illegally burning toxic wastes.

Last October 10 another toxic waste plant in Ironbound exploded **killing one man** and endangering thousands of others with toxic fumes. This company now wants to operate another plant at the same site.



On October 24, 1981, a company that was illegally storing toxic wastes on Ferry St. exploded in flames. The fire sent toxic gases into Ironbound residents homes.

Other toxic accidents in Ironbound during the last 2 years include a leaking tank car at the Oak Island Railroad yard that forced the evacuation of hundreds of people at Newark Airport and Port Newark, an accident at SCA that released toxic gases into the air, the death of a construction worker from toxic gases in a sewer line.

Nearby cities have also suffered. In April 1980, explosions and fires occured at Chemical Control in Elizabeth. Ironically, the fire happened while the NJDEP had control of the place, showing people how much they could depend on the state to protect them. An accident in Bayonne at another toxic waste facility sent 12 people to the hospital. A fire at the Bayway refinery in Linden a few years ago could be seen in Newark as it burned out of control.

Ironbound residents have demanded for years that **no more toxic wastes be brought here.** Mr. Lesniak's law to stop At Sea Incineration would help protect our neighborhood.

Explosion Closes School

by Sister Patricia McManus

Once again the students and staff of St. Aloysius School have been victimized by a local disaster. The recent Texaco explosion caused enough damage to the school building to warrant the closing of the school for at least 3 days until the 38 smashed windows and frames were replaced. Several classrooms resembled places ravaged by war. Broken glass literally covered the rooms.

What is ***really*** frightening about this latest catastrophe is the thought of the number of people...especially innocent children sitting in a classroom...who would have been injured or killed had the explosion happened at 12:15 **P.M.** instead of 12:15 *A.M.*

Sister Patricia McManus is principal of St. Aloysius School on Fleming Ave. & Freeman Sts.

Everybody's Backyard

"They (At Sea) would be putting the largest concentration of toxic chemicals in the world in the middle of the highest population in the State...There's already a track record of near misses and near tragedies. To throw an added burden on to this area is **just waiting for a tragedy to happen."**

The speaker was Assemblyman Ray Lesniak (Union County). Mr. Lesniak was only one of a large number of public officials, labor representatives, church leaders, and community groups from Bayonne, Jersey City, Elizabeth and Newark who spoke out at a press conference January 18 organized by the **Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Wastes.**

The press conference was held at St. Aloysius School, where 41 windows were knocked out during the Texaco explosion.

TV channels 2, 4, 5, 13 and 68 covered the press conference. Also radio station WNEW and the Star Ledger, the Hudson Dispatch, the Asbury Park Press, the Jersey Journal and the Elizabeth Daily Journal.

"A Regional Issue"

Bob Cartwright for the **Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Wastes** told people that At Sea's proposed facility will not solve New Jersey's toxic waste problem, but in fact "will make it worse. What it means is that we will be importing millions of gallons of toxic chemicals." He criticized the State and Federal government for not enforcing toxic waste disposal laws, and for taking 2 of their most successful investigators, Detective Seargents Ottens and Penney of the NJ State Police, off the enforcement of toxic waste laws. "We demand that as a first step these men be reinstated," Cartwright said. Mr. Cartwright spoke about the high levels of cancer, heart and lung diseases among Ironbound residents due to chemical pollution already present and urged support for Assemblyman Lesniak's bill, which would prevent At Sea from building its plant in this highly populated area.

Assemblyman Lesniak praised the work of the Ironbound Committee and its friends and supporters. "You've been

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Letters

Explosions & Toxics

Dear Editor,

I was born in the Ironbound section of Newark half a century ago.

We go to bed at night never knowing where the next explosion will be. The explosion was so loud last week it woke everyone up and we ran outside to see what blew up. Besides being afraid of all the toxics we are in constant fear of a plane crash. The blast was so bad our homes shook, windows broke, and things were knocked off the window sills onto the floor.

Every week it seems there's another disaster. My son is the fourth generation to live in this house. ***Don't we have the right to live our lives without constant fear of being blown up by some human mistake or a safety precaution that was overlooked?*** I am a member of the **Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Wastes** and I am so sick of hearing how safe all these factories, warehouses, and gas tanks are. We counted on the bill S-1300 to protect us from more chemical facilities, but the big companies have found loopoholes to sneak through and around it.

Now Assemblyman Raymond Lesniak introduced a bill that would bar the Newark site from being considered as a possible site for a huge hazardous waste disposal facility, owned and operated by At Sea Incineration.

Our group wants to thank Assemblyman Lesniak, because we need that law.

How anyone in their right mind can add ***more*** toxic wastes to the Ironbound is beyond our comprehension. Our lives, our health, and our homes are the most important things that we own. We are told over and over again by the big companies that if we don't like it we should move. This is our lives and our childrens'. Not one of the big companies' presidents live in Newark. They just make money here. They are here from nine to five. We live here all our lives.

Please help us in our fight.

Sincerely,
June Kruszewski
Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Wastes

Dear Editor:

Living in the Ironbound section of Newark is quite an experience. We have many fine attibutes: nice homes, good stores to shop in, excellent restaurants to satisfy our appetites and best of all, we have wonderful people. There is a beautiful sense of community spirit that exists between the people of many different cultural backgrounds in the Ironbound. I love living here and I don't want to leave.

Last Thursday, January 6th, I lay my head on my pillow to go to sleep. A few minutes after midnight, I felt a rumble, my house began to shake, then came the explosion. In the instant between the rumble and the blast I remember thinking *"will we come out of this alive?"* and *"what toxins are we going to be exposed to this time?"*

The blast was the least of my concerns. My main concern was what would happen to myself, my family and my neighbors in the aftermath of this blast.

With all the good qualities of the Ironbound, we must live with the knowledge that in the bosom of our neighborhood lie the very factors that could destroy us. The air we breath is already polluted, with so many chemical companies and industry that use hazardous chemicals around us, it is very much like living on



A Lentz Ave. resident sweeps up broken glass after the Texaco explosion.

top of a time bomb. ***You don't wonder IF it will blow, you only wonder WHEN!***

For my sake, for my neighbors sake and for God sake, there has to be something done to protect us from this impending danger. There should be more thorough investigations made and more stringent safety precautions should be taken by these chemical companies.

It's absurd to think that a company that uses ovens and intense heat to clean drums that had contained hazardous chemicals is situated so close to a petrochemical tank farm. The fact that Conrail had tank cars containing hazardous materials located so closely to both these companies is even more unbelievable. Something has to be done about the way these companies are allowed to operate.

The EPA and DEP have got to have stricter regulations and they must be enforced. There should also be stricter regulations ***against*** allowing these industries to locate in such a densely populated area.

I also ask that the general public, as well as our elected officials on a local, state and federal level, to support ***Bill 1670*** - the proposed state "Right to Know" legislation which would require industry to disclose to the public the potential danger of the substances they handle. Other states have adopted this resolution. It is now time for New Jersey to do so as well.

As if our problems are not bad enough, there is a proposal to locate a toxic waste terminal in Port Newark. The danger involved in locating this terminal, as well as transporting this hazardous waste into our city, are too awesome to imagine. We don't need any additional hazards in our neighborhood. **We need to eliminate as many of the dangers we now have, and prevent new openings or reopening of any business that would be a potential danger to the quality of our lives.**

To do this successfully, we ***must*** let our elected officials and the appropriate government agencies know how we feel. We must ask for their help and protection. If we don't see some action soon, we may just have to stop calling New Jersey the "Garden State" and begin to call it the "Toxic State".

Very truly yours,
Betty Cifrodella, Chairperson
Residents For a Healthier Ironbound

CIA & Human Rights

Dear Editor:

Should our government have the right to undermine the present socialist government of Nicaragua by giving covert CIA arms support to the backers of the former dictator Somoza operating from the sanctuary of neighborhing Honduras? Should the White House find fault with Ambassador Dean Hinton in San Salvador when he publicly warns the present junta of El Salvador that our nation may cut off U.S. military assistance to that country if these rulers do not curb the growing number of army-inspired and security force inspired murders of thousands of innocent civilians?

Congress and our citizens of "the land of the free and the home of the brave" need to answer these questions and to re-examine our continuing overt and often covert aid to brutal military dictatorships in Latin America such as in Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay, Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador. Today millions of peasants and city workers, who have been exploited by landowners and their military allies since the days of the Spanish and Portuguese invaders of the 16th Century, are just beginning to assert their God-given rights and to demand a measure of justice for themselves and their children. In such troubled waters the tyrannical Soviet Union, for its own selfish reasons, claims to be the friend of these long exploited people. Meanwhile we Americans, through our elected Senators and Congressmen, must press for a change of course in Latin America: with one of the richest nations on earth and as believers in our historical tradition of freedom and respect for human rights the world over, we must take the side of the common people in Latin America, and cease giving aid and comfort to their oppressive landowners and military juntas.

Rev. David S. Burgess, Pastor
St. Stephen's United Church of Christ

Public Housing

Dear Editor,

Many of us in the Ironbound community have felt the effects of present day policies put forth by local, state and federal governmental institutions. This is especially so with respect to those policies which are monetary. As a tenant of public housing for 27 years, I feel it necessary to inform the community of the effects these policies have had on public housing residents.

Tenants of public housing have found themselves in some of the worst conditions imaginable for human existence. What we as tenants of public housing find most unbelievable is that our cries for help and understanding in finding solutions to better our condition have fallen upon deaf ears. Fortunately we **do know** who to blame in part for the inhuman conditions with which we are forced to live. We blame our landlord. Yes, we blame the Newark Redevelopment and Housing Authority (NRHA).

The major concern of public housing residents at the moment is our demand that our current lease continue to exist as it is and that the NRHA's proposed lease be scrapped.

What we do want is ACTION now! Leave our lease alone, and live up to your commitments!

Herman Robinson, President
Hyatt Court Tenant Association

Tenants Gets Results!

Residents of the Aspen-Riverpark Apartments (formerly "the Pru") have saved from $20 to $100 due to the work of the new Tenant Association. People in the building had not been notified about the rent increase in the way their lease stated. The Tenant Association talked with residents, got a lawyer, and objected to the illegal increase.

This rent increase came at the same time the federal government decided to give the building owners a big increase in the amount of money they can collect for each apartment. In a Section 8 building like this, the tenant pays only 25% of his or her income for rent, and the government pays the rest. The rents are set at extremely high levels. For example, the owner of Aspen-Riverpark is collecting $667 a month for a 1 bedroom apartment, $820 a month for a 2 bedroom apartment, and $988 a month for a 3 bedroom apartment! The owner of the building is collect approximately $2 million in rents each year!

It seems that when the government decided to give the owner this increase, they also decided to make the tenants pay for it by increasing all the rents by $20 a month - another example of Reaganomics, take from the needy and give to the greedy. The government office in charge, HUD, said they had made a "mistake" and given the tenants an allowance for parking although there are no parking lots for building residents. But the "mistake" was discovered at just the same time that the owner's increase was approved.

The residents are also investigating a yearly charge the local cable TV company wants to force them to pay to hook up to a big TV antenna (separate from the cost of cable TV). A building contractor familiar with the costs involved told the Tenants Association that the charge was "absolutely outrageous."

"We are willing to pay what we legally should pay if we are getting what we pay for," said one tenant leader. But while tenants rents are going up, problems in the building are not being resolved.

In spite of the fact that the government gave the Aspen Co. thousands of dollars for the construction of this building there are many tenants who have similar problems relating to construction: floor tiles that are coming up, water leaking from electrical sockets, windows that do not operate properly, no heat. When there is no heat, tenants must use their stoves or electric heaters. As a result some of their utility bills are sky high. When tenants make a complaint it may take weeks before something is done. The buzzer system for one section of the building has not been operating properly for months, though the management was notified by tenants.

"We want to keep this building up. It's our home and we have no place else to go," said one tenant. "We want to develop programs for people here to get to know each other and to be active. We have a lot of plans. The Tenant Association is the way we can make our plans a reality."



Newark residents who are working to reopen the Wilson Avenue Bathhouse and the JFK Recreation Center braved the cold to hold a candlelight vigil on December 20 on the steps of City Hall. "We want to draw attention to the need for the City to make recreation a priority in the upcoming City budget," said John Smith from the Newark Swim Team, one of the organizers of the event. "We want to see the Bathhouse open again," said Reverend David Burgess of St. Stephen's Church. The group hung a proclamation about their concerns on the door of City Hall, and sang several Christmas carols. "Wouldn't it be great if the City gave some of the children these recreation facilities they want for Christmas?" said one person.

Big Landlords Want Even More $$$$$

Newark's big landlords and the Chamber of Commerce have formed a committee to pass **vacancy decontrol** in Newark, and to make the rent control bill even more unfair to tenants. The landlord committee is not open to tenants, but does include members of the City Council.

To make it seem like it is "fair", another committee run by the City Council is also being set up to "study" vacancy decontrol. This "fair" committee will have 4 City Council members, 2 landlords, and 2 tenants as members.

Vacancy decontrol means that when a tenant moves, the landlord can raise the rent for that apartment as high as he or she wants. In other cities which have passed vacancy decontrol, many tenants have complained that landlords tried to harass them into moving. Rents have gone up dramatically. In one town, rents more than doubled in a period of a couple of months.

Research which was done by the **Coalition to Save Rent Control** shows that many of the landlords arguments just are **not** true. For example, big landlords say they can't make money on their buildings with rents as they are now. However, only 1% of Newark's landlords have come to the Rent Control Board in any given year to show that they are losing money and ask for an increase in rents. Landlords would rather have the City Council pass automatic "pass through" laws, where they can pass costs on to their tenants automatically. They can't prove they are losing money, because they are making money.

Big landlords also say that rent control keeps new construction from going up or keeps owners from fixing up their buildings. But new buildings or buildings which are getting major repair work are **not even covered** by rent control in the first place.

Rent Control began in Newark in 1973 because "an emergency exists within the city of Newark...by reason of the demands for increases in rent which are hereby determined to be exhorbitant (too high)". The New Jersey Supreme Court ruled that rent control laws are constitutional.

Although Newark has more tenants (84,000 families) than any other city in New Jersey, its rent control law is **weaker** than those in many other cities. The Newark law allows landlords to **automatically** raise their rents by 6% a year. Many other cities limit automatic increases to 3, 4, or 5%. The Newark law has many loopholes to help landlords. A landlord can get a rent increase to pay his taxes, heating bills, water bills, to fix up the building or many other increase in costs. The New Jersey Supreme Court has said that rent control laws can be much stronger than the Newark law in protecting tenants.

The **Coalition To Save Rent Control** has written its own proposal to make the rent control law more fair to tenants. They will be getting endorsements for their proposal, and trying to get tenants to join together to stop the big landlords from raising rents sky high in Newark. If you are interested in getting involved, call 344-7210.

Ecumenical Worship Service Feb. 13

The 4th Annual Ecumenical Worship Service of Ironbound Churches will take place Sunday afternoon, Feb. 13, 2:30 PM, in the sanctuary of St. Benedict's Church, on Barbara and Niagara Streets.

Special guest speaker will be Reverend Dr. Aurelia T. Fule. Special music for the service will be performed by the nationally known Russian Liturgical Folk Choir and the members of the Chancel Choir of the Roseville Presbyterian Church of Newark.

Come join us in this special worship service of peace and love with all our Ironbound Churches.

Jon Dolberg, Elder
Wolff Memorial Church

Atlantic City Trip!

St. Benedict's Church is organizing a trip to the Claridge Casino, Feb. 6. You pay $15, but get $10 in quarters, a $5 food coupon, and a $5 coupon to use on your next trip. Busses leave 9:30 A.M. and return by 8 P.M. Call Father Joe at St. Benedict's, 589-7930, for reservations.

"ERA is an economic issue."

On January 3, Congressman Peter Rodino reintroduced the Equal Rights Amendment in Congress.

Rodino said, "Despite much progress on women's issues, women today still suffer from discrimination in employment, education, pensions, and many other issues."

Rodino said the fight for ERA is "an economic issue, since: women still earn 59¢ for every $1.00 earned by men: three out of every five persons with incomes below the poverty level are women; older women are the fastest growing poverty group; and current laws which Congress has passed to further women's economic equality can be repealed at any time without the ERA's Constitutional guarantee."

"The women of America have already waited too long for justice and equality," Rodino said.

People's Airlines Listens To People

On Friday, Dec. 17, the **Ironbound Airplane Committee** presented an award to People's Express Airlines for following the noise abatement approach into Newark Airport more than any other airline. "We've been working for years trying to get the Airport to have the planes not fly over our homes. It's good to see People's trying to follow the flight pattern away from our homes that the FAA adopted for all airlines," said Jon Dolberg, a committee member.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), in response to continued pressure from Ironbound residents in the form of meetings, demonstrations and balloon flights, adopted the Meadowland's Approach in 1980 to have planes avoid the populated area of Newark's Ironbound section during good weather conditions. In December of 1980, the FAA purchased an offset localizer to help guide pilots over this visual approach. "Their promises sound good but pilots have **not** been following the Meadlowland's Approach and no one is forcing them to. A pilot who flies straight over our homes in good weather is not even told by the Airport that he's done wrong," said Jon Dolberg.

The Ironbound Airplane Committee decided to reward the 1 airline which according to a recent FAA survey has complied with this noise abatement approach most - People's. "Hopefully, this award will encourage other airlines to follow the lead of People's," said Mr. Dolberg. If planes did follow this approach it could relieve up to 85% of the noise over Ironbound. But two years after the approach was published in pilots' log, the FAA and the Port Authority still have not forced the Airlines to follow this approach and still have not installed the equipment needed for the "offset localizer" to be in operation at all times.

Airplane noise has been shown to lead to increased deaths due to hypertension, alcoholism and heart problems. Ironbound school children lose up to 5 hours instruction a week because of airplane noise. Newark Airport traffic daily exposes over 27,000 people to "extremely serious" levels of airplane noise, the fourth worst in the nation.

Everybody's Backyard,

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doing a fantastic job in keeping this issue in the public eye," he said. "And you're going to have to continue to be active and vigilant around this issue in the years to come."

Having speakers from many major cities in this area showed that this concern about toxics and opposition to the At Sea proposal are not just coming from the Ironbound.

Gloria Davis, from **CUE**, said: "Do we really need the extra truck traffic, with trucks full of toxic chemicals? Do we really want this extra hazard to our health? **This is everybody's fight.** Now's the time to stop At Sea."

Assemblyman Joseph Doria from Hudson County, said, "I want to emphasize that this is not just a fight on behalf of the Ironbound people. This is a **regional** problem. All the elected officials and people of Hudson County are against At Sea's proposal. Staten Island is against it. All of us live with fear."

Esla Bynoe-Andriolo of **Jersey City ACORN** said, "I live 5 miles away in Jersey City. I came over to tell you that we are together with you 100%!"

Councilman Henry Martinez said that he would introduce a resolution supporting Lesniak's bill at the Newark City Council. **Freeholder Angelo Cifelli** is introducing a similar resolution to the Essex County Board of Freeholders. **Assemblyman Willie Brown** gave his support and said he would make sure that Lesniak's bill would not get stuck in Committee but would get a vote.

Wide Opposition

John Gerow, of the **Firemen's Benevolent Association,** said that cuts in the number of firemen have put the City in a dangerous situation. He spoke of the large number of men who were called out to fight the Texaco fire. "If there had been another fire that night in the City it would have been a catastrophe."

John McAleer, a fireman from Bayonne, said, "There's no fire department in this country that can handle an explosion of the magnitude that could happen at At Sea. Incidents **will** happen. It's just a question of **when.**"

Reverend David Burgess of the **Ironbound Ecumenical Association** said all the area Catholic and Protestant churches were united against At Sea.

Bill Smith, of NJ Committee For Occupational Safety and Health, spoke about the need for a **Right To Know Law** so that "firemen would not have to make a call to Houston, Texas in order to find out what was burning in those tanks." This is what happened in the Texaco fire.

Fran Wingren, from the **Ironbound Community Health Project,** spoke about the health effects of pollution. "We have right now in Ironbound children who have chronic lung and throat diseases."

"We've got to start thinking about the health of all our residents," said **Betty Cifrodella,** from **Residents for a Healthier Ironbound.**

"Do we want a hazardous waste facility here or healthy children? Should we sacrifice human life for profits?" asked **Tex Aldredge** the **Jersey City Hazardous Waste Task Force.** "The answer is definitely NO!"

"We've got to stay organized and get more and more people involved," said **June Krusewski** from the **Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Wastes.**

Beetles & Bad Air

On Wednesday night, December 15, more than 50 residents of Ironbound joined people from other parts of the City, and a group of Newark firemen at the Newark City Council meeting to raise the issue of continuing air pollution in the Ironbound, and the related issue of firehouse closings and layoffs of firemen.

Residents For A Healthier Ironbound, a group of people fighting air pollution from Resistol Hats on Rome St., presented the City Council with half a dozen bags filled with polluted air to show the Council members what Ironbound residents face everyday.

People on Rome St. spoke about the health problems they have experienced ever since Resistol Hats began operations in June 1982. Betty Cifrodella, chairperson of the group, reported the results of a health survey she conduced in the neighborhood. Of 35 people interviewed 67% had itchy, watery, swollen eyes, 63% experienced coughing, 59% experienced sneezing, 59% experienced sore throats. 48% suffered from nasal congestion, 30% had irritated nasal passages, 30% suffered from tightness in the chest, 26% had difficulty breathing. **89% of the people had 2 or more of these symptoms.** 85% noticed strong odors. 78% did not have these symptoms **before** Resistol Hats opened.

"My coughing became so bad that I was hospitalized," said Sandy Uccelini, a resident of Rome St. "My breathing was more and more difficult. I was rushed to the hospital on 5 separate occasions. My doctor told me not to walk in my neighborhood without a mask on my face. I'm seriously ill and other people in my neighborhood will become seriously ill unless something is done."

"We know the weather outside is cold, but we don't need fur-lined lungs," said Dorothea Volz. (People on Rome St. have also noticed small particles of fur in the air which they have been breathing in). "Do poor people have rights? You can't put a price on our health. No amount of money can buy back our health."

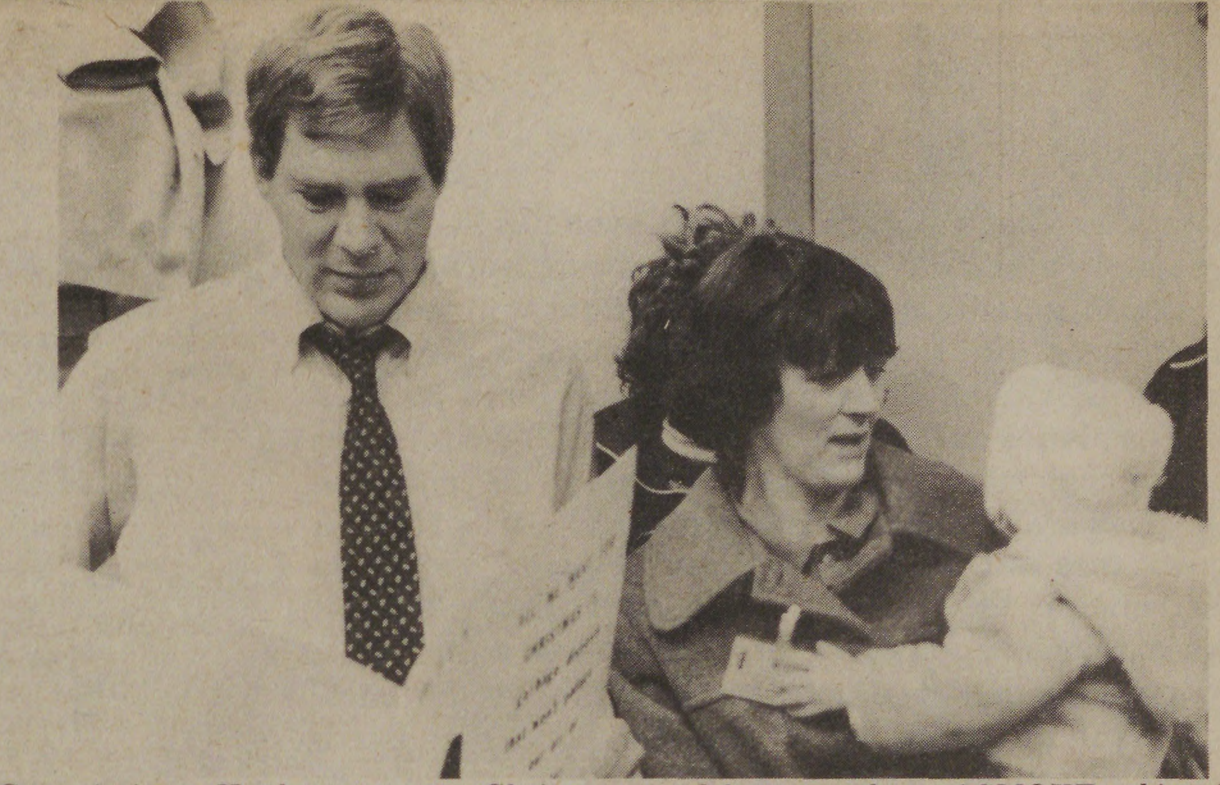
Tony Marone, a member of the **Community Environmental Committee: For a Cleaner & Healthier Neighborhood**, a group of residents from the Astor St. area told the Council about their fight against air pollution from the Steel Craft Fluorescent Company, a firm which spray paints white fluorescent fixtures.

The **Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Wastes** also spoke about their efforts to stop air pollution from Farmers Feed on Chapel Street.

Officials from the Code Enforcement Department, Health Department, and Air Pollution Control, tried to convince residents that there were no problems remaining at Resistol Hats. But City Council members supported the residents. Now people hope they will support them in action not just words.

"City, State and federal agencies would have let these situations remain unchanged if they had not been pressured by organized groups of residents," said one person who attended the meeting. "We've got to stick together and speak out."

Other speakers talked about the need to keep the firehouses open and to stop the layoff of firemen. "The problem of toxic waste storage and handling in Ironbound has to be addressed. We must keep all our firehouses open - and not lay off any more firemen," said Arnold Cohen. "Residents from all over the city must be protected. Closing one firehouse weakens all the others, and makes the firemen's job more dangerous and difficult."



Commissioner Hughey accepts a Christmas card from members of SMOKE asking for a moratorium on building garbage incinerators. Susan Wisniewski from Sayerville Citizens Opposing Polluting Environments (SCOPE) and her baby look on.

All We Want For Christmas Is:

On Monday, December 20, members of ***SMOKE, Statewide Movement Opposing Killer Environments,*** presented an oversized Christmas card to Commissioner Robert Hughey of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The Christmas card asked for one special Christmas present - a method of garbage disposal that will not pollute either the air we have to breathe or the water we have to drink. Members of ***SMOKE*** from Sayreville, East Brunswick, Rockaway Township, and Newark joined up to present the card.

In the past, New Jersey has relied on landfills to dispose of garbage. In case after case, toxic chemicals were discovered mixed in with the garbage - and after a short period, they seeped through the earth and polluted the ground water New Jersey residents drink.

County governments now want to dispose of garbage by burning it. This will cause many problems and does not eliminate the need for landfills. All garbage incinerators tested in both the United States and Europe have emitted the deadly chemical ***dioxin.*** An incinerator in Hempstead, Long Island was closed because of dioxin going into the air. The odors from the plant made people sick in a shopping center 1 and a half miles away.

SMOKE does not want New Jersey's air supply to become further polluted with chemicals that cause cancer, birth defects, kidney and liver damage, and other serious diseases. Landfills were once the "state of the art" technology - and water pollution was the result! According to the group, "The DEP must offer a solution that ***truly is*** a solution - not one that will solve one problem, only to substitute it with another."

GREO - New Group To Unite People Fighting Environmental Problems

On Saturday, December 11, members of community groups from all over New Jersey met to discuss ways that they could join together to fight environmental damage - from both air and water pollution.

The meeting was held at St. Stanilaus Kostka Church in Sayreville. Over 30 people attended from Howell Township, Rockaway Township, Martinsville, Jamesburg, East Brunswick, Sayreville, Newark, Elizabeth and Bayonne.

The people present agreed to form a statewide organization that unites groups fighting either proposed or existing landfills with groups who are fighting proposed incinerators to burn garbage. They also agreed that it is important **not** to fight against each other, but against common foes - the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the waste disposal industry. The NJDEP very often succeeds in getting 2 or more communitites to fight with each other over which community will receive a landfill or garbage incinerator that will inevitably pollute the air or water.

People at the meeting agreed that only by joining together across the state could one local community get the clout it needs to force the DEP to come up with safer alternatives. "The waste disposal industry and the NJDEP **must** find ways to dispose of solid and toxic waste that will **not** cause environmental damage to our air or water," said one person.

The new organization is calling itself **New Jersey Grass Roots Environmental Organization (GREO). A griot**, (pronounced the same as GREO), according to Alex Haley in his book **ROOTS**, was the member of the tribe responsible for remembering stories and the history of the tribe so they could be kept alive from generation to generation. This organization will make sure that the history of health affects from air and water pollution in New Jersey are not forgotten but instead are corrected.

No Layoffs!

Ironbound residents joined in a recent demonstration by Newark firemen at City Hall to protest the cuts in the number of firemen which took place recently. Each cut in manpower results in more time of for the remaining companies to get to a fire and a more exhausting and dangerous job for the remaining firemen.

Já Basta!

Outra explosão a 6 de Janeiro levou-nos a focar a atenção do plano da "At Sea" para a construção duma instalação gigante que processa e armazena desperdícios tóxicos no Ironbound. O Deputado Raymond Lesniak (D-Union) disse que vai propor uma lei para parar os planos da "At Sea". O Sr. Lesniak acentuou que para colocar outra instalação de género no centro da area (Newark, Jersey City, Elizabeth) **"seria ficar à espera que outra tregédia acontecesse."** Este área recentemente tem sido o teatro de vários acidentes graves, relacionados com materiais tóxicos e perigosos.

A explosão de 6 de Janeiro foi ouvida a 100 milhas e emitiu uma nuvem de fumo negro que podia ser vista a grande distancia. A NJDEP declarou um estado de alerta contra a poluição nos condados de Passaic e Bergen mas recusou admitir que os residentes de Newark-Jersey City tivessem respirado os fumos. O incendio foi devido a um excesso de combostivel que verteu do tanque de armazenagem. A ignição inícial que originou o incendio probavelmente veio doutra instalação localizada na mesma area e que tinha sido avistada pela DEP e EPA por queimar productos toxicos ilegalmente.

A 10 de Outubro outra instalação destas no Ironbound explodiu, causando um morto e pondo em perigo milhares de possoas com os fumos tóxicos. Esta companhia quer agora operar outra facilidade no mesmo local.





A 24 de Outubro de 1981 uma companhia que armazenava desperdícios tóxicos na Ferry st. explodiu. O fogo emitiu gases tóxicos que penetraram as casas dos residentes do Ironbound.

Outros acidentes deste genero no Ironbound nos ultimos dois anos, incluíndo um vagão tanque roto dos caminhos de ferró da Oak Island Railroad forçaram a evacuação de centenas de pessoas do porto e aeroporto de Newark, e um acidente na SCA que libertou gases tóxicos para a atmosfera, e ainda a morte dum trabalhador da construção vítima de gases inalados numa lina de esgotos.

As cidades vizinhas teem sofrido também. Em Abril de 1980 deram-se incendios e explosões na Quemical Control em Elizabeth. Ironicamente, o incendio aconteceu quando a NJDEP controlava o sítio e mostrava as pessoas que podiam depender do estado para as proteger. Um acidente em Bayonne noutra facilidade de productos tóxicos mandou 12 individuos para o hospital. Um incendio na refinaria na Bayway em Linden à poucos anos podia ver-se de Newark a arder sem possibilidade de extinção.

Os residentes do Ironbound veem hà muitos anos a exigir que **não tragam para cá mais lixo tóxico.** A proposta de lei do Sr. Lesniak para impedir a "At Sea" ajudaria a proteger o nosso bairro.

Escola Fechada Pelo Emcendio

por Sr. Patricia McManus

Outravez os estudantes e empregados da St. Aloysius Escola foram victimas de outro desastre local. O recente incendio do Texaco causou bastantes prejuisos no ideficio e teve que ser fechado por 3 dias. Até que as 38 janelas e caxilhos sejam arranjados algumas classes parecem que foram vitimas de uma guerra cheias de vidros.

O que da verdade é assustador é que neste acidente. Se tem passado durante as horas do dia quantas pessoas e crianças assentadas nas suas classes podiam ser feridas. Se em vez de ter sido as 12:15 PM fosse 12:15 AM.

Irma Patricia McManus e prencipal da St. Aloysius School na Fleming Ave. na Freeman St.

Residentes Presentes na Reunião do Conselho Municipal

Quarta feira à noite, 15 de dezembro, mais de 50 residentes do Ironbound juntamente com pessoas de outras partes da Cidade e tambem dos bombeiros de Newark. Estiveram presentes na reunião de conselho municipal de Newark para falarem da contínua poluição do Ironbound, de fechamento de alguns quartéis de bombeiros, bem como o reducimento no número dos bombeiros, por mandá-los embora do trabalho.

Pessoas da Rome St. falaram sobre os problemas de saúde que tem experimentado desde que a companhia "Resistol Hats" começou a operar em Junho de 1982. Betty Cifrodella, lider do group, reportou resultados de problemas de saúde, baseado em pesquisa por ela conduzido naquela vizinhança.

De 35 pessoas entrevistadas, 67% tinham coceiras, olhos a deitar constante água bem como irritação. 53% tiveram tosse, 59% experimentaram problemas respiratórios, 59% com problemas na garganta. 48% tiveram congestão nasal, 30% com irritações no nariz, 30% observaram problemas no peito, e 26% com dificuldades na respiração. **89% das pessoas entrevistadas tiveram 2 ou mais destes sintomas.** 78% não tinham estes problemas **antes** da Resistol Hats comecarem suas operações.

"Minha tosse ficou tão forte que tive que ficar hospitalizada," disse Sandy Ucelini, residente da Rome St. "Minha respiração ficou tão má, que tive que ser socorrida no hospital em 5 diferentes ocasiões. Meu médico disse-me para não andar na minha vizinhança sem uma máscara no rosto. Estou muito doente e os meus vizinhos tambem ficarão se alguma coisa não for feita para acabar com este problema."

Tony Marone, um menbro do **Comite da Comunidade do Meio Ambiente: Para uma Vizinhança Limpa e Saudável,** um grupo de moradores da Astor St., disse ao conselho sobre a luta que tem travado contra a poluição atmosférica provenientes duma companhia de produtos fluorescentes, com produtos altamente poluentes.

"A cidade, estado, bem como agencias federais, teriam deixado a situação como está, se eles não tivessem sido pressionados por grupos organizados de moradores das áreas atingidas," disse um morador. "Nós temos que ficar unidos para que eles oucam-nos."

Outros oradores falaram da necessidade de terem abertos os quarteis dos bombeiros e pararem de despedir bombeiros. "O problema com o lixo tóxico que é armazenado no Ironbound tem que ser resolvido. Temos que ter todos os quarteis de bombeiros abertos e não despedir nem mais um dos poucos bombeiros ainda remanescente," disse Arnold Cohen.



Os residentes de Newark que estão a trabalhar para reabrirem a piscina na Wilson Ave. e o Centro de Recreio de JFK enfrentaram o frio em 20 de Dezembro e fizeram uma vigilia com velas nas escadas da camara-municipal. John Smith do Team de Natação de Newark disse: "Nos queremos que a Cidade faça aquele recreio uma prioridade no seu orçamento." "Nos queremos ver a nossa piscina outravez aberta," disse o Reverendo David Burgess da Igreja de St. Stephen's. O grupo pôs um papel afixado na porta da camara municipal dizendo àcerca do que estavam a pedir e cantaram canções do natal. "Isto não seria maravilhoso se a Cidade, desse às crianças estas facilidades de recreio que eles querem pelo Natal?" disse uma pessoa.

A 'Peoples Airlines' Escuta O Povo

Sexta-feira 17 de Dezembro, O **Ironbound Airplane Committee** presenteou a 'Peoples' Express Airlines' com uma placa de reconhecimento, por esta aterrar os seus aviões com o minimo ruido possivel, mais frequentemente que as outras companhias. "Andamos a trabalhar há muitos anos para conseguir que o Aeroporto faça com que os aviões evitem sobrevoar as nossas casas. É bom observar a 'Peoples' a tentar seguir a rota de voo por fora das casas que a FAA adoptou para todas as companhias," disse Jon Dolberg um membro do Comité.

A Administração Federal da Aeronáutica (FAA), reagindo á pressão contínua dos residentes atravez de reuniões, demonstrações, lançamento de balões, adoptou a aproximação de Meadowland's em 1980 para fazer com qué os aviões evitem a área povoada do Ironbound sempre que as condições do tempo permitam. Em Dezembro de 1980, a FAA comprou um instrumento que ajuda os pilotos nas aterragems visuais. "As promessas da FAA soam bem mas os pilotos não comprem com a aterragem do Meadowland's e ninguem os força. Um piloto que rasa as nossas casas com bom tempo nem sequer é avisado pelo aeroporto que está a proceder mal," disse Jon Dolberg.

O **Ironbound Airplane Committee** decidiu oferecer uma placa de reconnecimento à primeira companhia que de a acordo com estudo da FAA compriu com as regras de redução de ruído a qual coube à People's. "Temos esperanças que esta placa de reconhecimento possa insentivar outras companhias a seguir o procedimento da People's," disse o Sr. Dolberg.

Se os aviões seguissem este caminho o barulho no Ironbound podia ser reduzido de 85%.

Está provado que o ruído dos aviões provoca um aumento no numero de mortes devidas a tensão arterial alcoolismo e coração. As crianças nas escolas desta área perdem 5 horas por semana de instrução. O trafego aereo do aeroporto de Newark expoem 27.000 residentes diariamente a niveis de ruido extremamente intensos fazendo-o o quarto pior no país.

O Quarto Serviço Anual Ecumenical de Adoração das Igrejas do Ironbound

Em 13 de Fevereiro às 2.30 PM na Igreja de St. Benedict's

(na Niagara e Barbara Sts)

Este serviço é muito importante para que toda a gente do Ironbound, de todas as crenças e 'cultos' se reunam na sua fé.

ERA E Uma Situação Económica

Em Janeiro 3, Congressman Peter Rodino intrudizio os Direitos Humanos no Congresso.

Rodino disse, "A pesar de haver ja um pouco de progresso aindao hoje mulher tem descreminação em educação, trabalho, pensões, etc.

Rodino disse que a luta da ERA "é um caso economico: pois a mulher ganha 59¢ por cada dollar que ganha um homen; três de cada cinco pessoas com o ganho abaixo do normal é mulher; e se a mulher tem idade e ainda mais afectada. As leis que presentemente o Congresso passou a favor da mulher podem ser caceládas em qualquer momento sem a garantia da ERA."

Pelo Natal, O Que Nos Queremos É:

No passado dia 20 de Dezembro, elementos da organização **SMOKE** (Statewide Movement Opposing Killer Environments) entregaram um grande cartão de Natal ao Comissário Robert Hughey do Departamento de Protecção ao Ambiente do estado de New Jersey. Tal cartão pedia um especial presente de natal - um processo de eliminação de lixo que não poluisse nem o ar que respiramos nem a água que bebemos. Representantes da organização **SMOKE** de Sayreville, East Brunswick, Rockaway Township e Newark encarregaram-se de respectiva entrega.

Antigamente, New Jersey dependia de lixeiras para aí depositar lixo. Caso após caso, produtos químicos tóxicos foram descobertos entre o lixo e, passado pouco tempo, infiltravam-se na terra poluindo a água consumida pelos residentes de New Jersey.

Os governos dos condados pretendem agora desfazer-se do lixo queimando-o. Isto só causará mais problemas e não acabará com as lixeiras. Todos os fornos ensaiados tanto na Europa como nos Estados Unidos emitem dioxin, um produto químico tóxico. Um forno em Hempstead, Long Island, foi encerrado em virtude dos produtos tóxicos que emitia. Os cheiros fizeram adoecer pessoas num centro comercial situado a milha e maia de distancia.



*Comissário Robert Hughey do Departamento de Protecção Ambiente do estado de New Jersey e Susan Wisniewski da organização **SMOKE**.*

SMOKE não quer que o ar de New Jersey seja poluido com substâncias causadores de cancro, defeitos de nascimento, doenças do figado e dos rins, e outros terríveis males. O grupo pretende que o Departamento de Protecção ao Ambiente apresente uma solução capaz para problema, e não cause outros problemas ao resolver apenas um.

"Morrem de Cancro e Não de Idade Avançada"

O meu nome é Diane Turco. Residi na secção de Ironbound toda a minha vida. Sou mãi, esposa e filha e por conseguinte interessa-me a saúde e o bem estar da minha família, bem como a dos residentes do Ironbound.

Investigação cientifica feita pela escola medica de New Jersey indica que a mortalidade pelo cancro em Newark é alima dás médias nacionais e internacionais. Esta conclusão não é surpreza para os residentes do Ironbound. Poucos resientes deste bairro teem escapado aos horrores de saber que um parente tem cancro. Nenhum de nós tem escapado a observar um ente querido a ser devorado por esta doença monstruosa. Resando para que a morte venha depressa. A por dos membros da familia è quási tão dificil de suportar como a do doente.

Estaremos em perigo no caso de derrames, incendios, e explões causados por acidentes de trafego.

Eu não me lembro da última vez que fui a um funeral em que o falecido tenha morrido de morte natural. A maior parte dos nossos idosos morrem de cancro e não de idade avançada.

Recentemente visitei um director funerário no Ironbound que tem uma media de 100 a 150 funerais anualmente. Pedi-lhe que verificasse alguns dos ficheiros à sorte e isto foi o que encontramos. De 27 fichas correspondentes, 15 mortes foram pelo cancro, 6 pelo coração, 4 pelos pulmões, e 1 pelos rims.

Para comparação, contactei um director funerário em Lavalette, N.J., uma comunidade sem qualquer industria a beira mar, sem inceneradores, sem estradas de grande movimento, sem fabricas de tinta ou de productos farmaceuticos.

O director funerário afirmou que dos residentes que la viveram a vida inteira não se lembra de um que tenha morrido de cancro. Pessoalmente intervistei 6 residentes que viveram em Lavalette toda a vida com um total de 27 familiares e não encontrei um caso de cancro or doença pulmunar.

Nós sabemos porque temos estes problemas e sabemos quem é responável.

As conclusões são claras. Newark está no meio dum perigo evidente presentemente. O critério estadual quanto à localização dos desperdícios tóxicos elimina a maior parte do estado e aponta o dede em direcção das cidades grandes.

A ideia de que é facil chegar a Newark pelos "high ways" 1 & 9, 280, e 24 e que estas vias eliminam o trafego dos veíclos que transportam os productos tóxicos atravez das ruas da cidade não toma em consideração o facto que as mesmas vias são as ruas da nossa cidade. Elas atravessam a nossa comunidade. Algumas das nossas casas estão a poucos pés dessas vias.

Estaremos em perigo no caso de derrames, incendios, e explosões causados por acidentes de trafego.

Newark não tem um planto de evacuação no caso de tais acidentes, como foi evidenciado pelo carro cisterna que ardeu a 27 de Julho do ano passado e que continha oxido de etileno. Alguns residentes vivem a meio bloco de distancia daquele local. Não foram evacuados emquanto que os hospedes dum motel situado a uma milha dalí foram. Soubemos disto pelos comunicados da TV. Nenhuma organização governamental deu imformações aos residentes.

Mais uma vez outro exemplo do desprendimento completo pelo bem estar dos residentes de Newark. As agencias que fazem as decisões decidiram ignorar Newark porque os seus residentes não se queixam. Eles não teem os meios financeiros para lutar como os das zonas ricas dos suburbios.

Nós sabemos porque temos estes problemas e sabemos quem é responsável.

A dona de casa que tem que lavar as janelas mais vezes e limpar o pó da mobília todos os dias ao contrário da sua irmã que vive na suburvia - *ela sabe porquê!*

Os proprietarios que teem que pintar e reparar mais frequentemente e pagar seguros contra incendio mais altos - *eles sabem porquê!*

Quando pagam o hospital e as contas do funeral - *os sobreviventes sabem porquê!*

Investigação cientifica indica que a mortalidade pelo cancro em Newark é alima dás médias nacionais e internacionais

Nós os residentes do Ironbound e Newark estamos doentes e cansados e não toleramos mais. Senhoras e senhores, nas vossas deliberações quando decidirem os locais, considerem que Newark já não compurta mais. Considerem tambem que o que acontece em Newark tambem vos afecta. Não importa onde viveis. O ar à nossa volta não tem fronteiras. Acartará os quimicos mortais até aos degraos da vossa porta tambem. Olhem que estes productos que poluem já teem sido encontrados na neve no Polo Norte!

O problema da localização do lixo toxico não é da responsabilidade dos residentes da cidade de Newark sómente. Nós temos suportado a nossa parte dos lixos da sociedade por muito tempo. Não toleramos mais.

Los Inquilinos Logran Resultados

Los residentes de Aspen-Riverpark Apartments (formalmente "El Pru") han ahorrado de $20 a $100 dolares debido al trabajo de la nueva Asociación de Inquilinos.

Gente en los edificios no habian sido notificados del aumento en la renta que verificaba en su contrato. La Asociación de Inquilinos hablo con los residentes, buscarón un abogado, y protestaron el ilegal aumento.

Este aumento en la renta vino al mismo tiempo que el govierno federal decició darle a los dueños del edificio un aumento bien grande de la cantidad de dinero que ellos recogen de cada apartamento. En la sección 8 de los edificios, los inquilinos pagan solamente 25% de sus ingresos para rentas. Y el goveirno paga el resto. Las rentas estan en extremadamente altos niveles. Por ejemplo, el dueño de Aspen-Riverpark recoge $667 al mes por un apartamento de 1 dormitorio, $820 por un apartamento de 2 dormitorios y $998 por un apartamento de 3 dormitorios. El dueño del edificio recoge aproximadamente 2 millones en rentas cada año.

Todo parece que cuando el govierno decidio darle al dueño un aumento, ellos decidierón que los inquilinos lo pagaran aumentando sus rentas 20 dolares mensuales. la oficina de govierno encargada de HUD dijo que habian hecho un error darle a los inquilinos un tarifa para un parking no habiendo parking para los residentes. Pero " el error" fue descubierto justamente en el momento del aumento de los dueños del edificio.

"Nosotros queremos mantener estos edificios. Es nuestro hogar."

Los residentes estan tambien investigando el cargo anual que la compañia de Cable TV quiere forzar a que pagan por instalar una antena de TV grande (separada al costo del Cable TV). Un constructor del edificio familiarizado con estos costos dijo a los inquilinos que los cargos que querian eran "extremadamente desastrosos."

"Nosotros estamos dispuestos a pagar lo que legalmente debemos pagar," digo el lider de la Asociación de Inquilinos. "Pero mientras las rentas de los inquilinos siguen subiendo, problemas en los edificios no se estan resolviendo."

A pesar del hecho que el govierno le dio a la compañia Aspen miles de dólares para la construcción de estos edificios, hay muchos inquilinos que estan teniendo problemas con la construcción de estos: las lozetas de los pisos se estan saliendo, agua saliendo por socalos electricos, ventanas que no funcionana adecuadamente, no calefacción. Cuando no hay calefación los inquilinos se ven forzados a usar sus estufas o calentadores electricos. Como resultado los cargos de electricidad por las nubes. Cuando los inquilinos se quejan cojen semanas antes de resolver el problema. El sistema de los timbres en una sección de los edificios no ha estado operando propiamente por meses. Y esto ha sido notificado por los inquilinos.

"Nosotros queremos mantener estos edificios. Es nuestro hogar y no tenemos ningun otro sitio donde ir," dijo un inquilino. "Nosotros queremos empezar programas para que la gente se conoscan unos a los otros y estar activos. Tenemos muchos planes. La Asociación de Inquilinos es una manera que podemos hacer de nuestras planes una realidad."



Los residentes de Newark, quienes estan trabajando para la reapertura de la "Bathhouse" en Wilson Avenue y el JFK Centro de Recreación a pesar del frio para llevar belas el 20 de diciembre en las escalas del 'City Hall'. "Nosotros queremos que la Ciudad de prioridad a la recreación en el presupuesto de la ciudad," dijo John L. Smith, quien pertenece al tem de natación. "Nosotros queremos ver la Bathhouse abierta otra vez," dijo el Reverendo David Burgess de la iglesia de St. Stephen's. La gente estaba al frente de la puerta de City Hall haciendo sus reclamaciones concernientes y cantaron diferentes discos alucivos a la Navidad. "No seria fabuloso si la Ciudad le diera a los niños facilidades de recreación ellos quieren eso para navidad," dijo una persona.

Los Grandes Dueños De Casa Quieren Mas Dinero Todavia

Los grandes dueños de casa y la Cámara de Comercio han formado un comité para que se dé en Newark la **Ley de Vacancy Decontrol** y hacer más injusta la Ley del Control de la Renta. El comité de propietarios no incluye la participación de inquilinos, pero si incluye a los miembros del concilio municipal.

Para hacer parecer como que este comité es "justo", otro comité establecido por el concilio municipal esta haciendo un "estudio" sobre esta ley. Este "justo" comité, tendrá cuatro miembros del concilio, tres propietarios y un inquilino como miembros.

La **Ley de Vacancy Decontrol** significa que cuando un inquilino se muda a otro lugar, el dueño de la casa puede aumentar la renta de ese apartamento desocupado tan alto como él o ella lo deseen. En otras ciudades en las que esta Ley ha sido implementada, muchos inquilinos han expresado y reclamado que los dueños de las casas trataron de obligarlos a mudarse involuntariamente. La renta se ha elevado dramáticamente. En una ciudad, Caldwell, la renta se ha elevado a más del doble en un corto período de un par de meses.

Newark tiene más inquilnos (84,000 familias) que otra ciudad en New Jersey.

Investigaciones que fueron hechas por la ***Coalición Para Salvar El Control Sobre La Renta,*** muestran que muchos de los dueños de casas argumentan que eso no es verdad. Por ejemplo, grandes propietarios de apartamentos dicen que ellos no pueden hacer dinero con sus edificios, así como estan los precios de la renta ahora. Mientras tanto, solo el 1% de los propietarios de casas y edificios de Newark han venido ante la Junta de Control Sobre la Renta para mostrar que ellos estan perdiendo dinero y piden a la vez un incremento más sobre la renta. A los propietarios de casas y edificios les gustaría que el Consejal de la Ciudad aprobara esta ley automáticamente y así ellos podrían pasar o cargar todos sus costos sobre los inquilinos. Ellos no pueden mostrar que estan perdiendo dinero por que la verdad es que ellos estan ganando mucho!

Grandes propietarios de casas y edificios tambien dicen que el control sobre la renta no deja construir nuevos edificios y tambien el no reparar los mismos. En primer lugar, los nuevos edificios, o edificios que necesitan grandes trabajos de repación no estan cubiertos por el control sobre la renta.

El control sobre la renta comenzó en Newark en 1973. La corte Suprema de New Jersey establece que las leyes de control sobre la renta son constitucionales siempre y cuando la escasas de vivienda exista, lo cual es todavía palpable en Newark.

Ellos no pueden mostrar que estan perdiendo dinero por que la verdad es que ellos estan ganando mucho!

Aún cuando Newark tiene más inquilinos (84,000 familias) que otra ciudad en New Jersey, su ley de control sobre la renta es la menos rígida que en otras ciudades. La ley de Newark permite a los propietarios incrementar automáticamente la renta en un 6% cada año. Muchas otras ciudades la incrementan en un 3, 4 ó 5%. La ley de Newark tiene muchas salidas o escapatorias para los propietarios de edificios. Un propietario puede conseguir un aumento en la renta para pagar sus taxes, facturas de calefacción y agua, o para reparar los edificios. La corte Suprema de New Jersey, ha dicho que la ley de control sobre la renta puede ser más fuerte que la de Newark para la protección de los inquilinos.

La ***Coalición Para Salvar El Control Sobre La Renta*** ha escrita sus propias propuestas y tratando de que los inquilinos se unan y organicen para detener a los grandes propietarios en su deseo de abolir el control sobre la renta en Newark. Si tú estas interesado en esta campaña, llama al elefono 344-7210.

Basta!

Otra explición en Enero 6 que ha llamado la atención del plan At Sea Incineration. Ese plan es para la construcción de un tanque enorme para la basura toxica que ellos quieren construir en la sección de Ironbound. El Asembleista Lesniak (D-Union) ha dicho que introducira una nueva ley que parará los planes de At Sea. El Señor Lesniak indicó que si colocaran otro lugar de incineración entre las areas de Newark y Jersey City, **"seria simplemente esperar porque otra tragedia acontesca."** Esta area ha sido ultimamente el lugar de una cantidad de grandes accidentes relacionados con toxicos y productos peligrosos.



La explición del 6 de Enero fui oida a 100 millas de distancia y envio una nuve espeza de humo negro para el aire la cual podia ser vista a varias millas de distancia. El NJDEP declaron un estado de alerta por causa de la contaminación en los condados de Passaic y Bergen, pero se nego a reconocer que los humos estaban a ser respirados por las personas de las areas de Newark y Jersey City. El fuego fui causado por un tanque estaba demasiado lleno, la chispa que comenzo el fuego vino de uno de los sitios de incineración tambien situados en Ironbound que ha sido acusado por el DEP y por la EPA, por quemar ilegalmente basura toxica.

El 10 de Octubre de 1981, otra planta de basura toxica explotó, matando un hombre y poniendo en peligro millares de otras personas por los humos toxicos. Esta compañia ahora quiere abrir otra planta en la misma area.



El 24 de Octubre de 1981, la compañia que estaba almaceñando ilegalmente productos toxicos en Ferry St., explotó en llamas. El fuego envió gases toxicos que llegaron a las casas de los residentes de Ironbound.

Otros accidentes en Ironbound durante los 2 ultimos años incluye un carro tanque vaciaba en el patio de Oak Island Railroad, hubo que hacer la evacuación a dezenas de personas en el Aeropuerto y Puerto de Newark, un accidente en la SCA que liberto gases toxicos para el aire, y la muerte de un trabajador de construcción con gases toxicos en una caneria.

Ciudades vecinas tambien sufrieron. En Abril de 1980, exploциones y fuegos ocurrieron en el Chemical Control en Elizabeth. Ironicamente, el fuego sucedió mientras que NJDEP está en control del lugar, mostrando a las personas cuanto podian depender del Estado para su protección.

Un accidente en Bayonne otro sitio de incineración de productos toxicos envió 12 personas para el hospital. Un fuego en la refineria de Bayway en Linden hace algunos años podia ser visto de Newark mientras que ardia fuera de control.

Los residentes de Ironbound piden hace años para que **no traigan mas basura toxica para aquí.** La ley del Señor Lesniak para parar con At Sea Incineration debia protejer nuestra area.

Explosión Cierra Escuela

por Sr. Patricia McManus

Una vez mas los estudiantes y el personal de la escuela de St. Aloysius ha sido victima de un desastre local. La reciente explosión de la Texaco ha causado un enorme daño en el edificio de la escuela. Tanto ha sido que se ha cerrado la escuela por 3 dias, hasta que las 38 ventanas sean reemplazadas. Algunos salones de clases se le agrietaron las paredes y quedaron arruinados por la guerra.

Lo que **realmente** nos asusta sobre esta catastofre es pensar en el numero de personas, especialmente niños inocentes, que pudieron ser heridas o muertas por la explosión que ocurrio a las 12:15 de la mañana, en vez de las 12:15 de la tarde.

La Hermana Patricia McManus esta principal de la escuela St. Aloysius.

Peoples' Express Airlines Escucha a la Gente

El día 17 de diciembre la asociación llamada 'Ironbound Airplane Committee' presentó un premio a "Peoples' Express Airlines" por seguir la ruta que produce menos ruido mas que cualquier otra linea aerea que usa el aeropuerto de Newark.

"Hemos trabajado por muchos años para que el aeropuerto no deja que los aviones pasan por encima de nuestras casas. Nos alegra mucho el que "Peoples' Express" esta tratando de seguir el camino aereo que el FAA ha adoptado para todas las lineas aereas," dijo Jon Dolberg, un miembro de Comité.

La Administración Federal de Aviación (FAA) repondiendo al reclamo de los residentes en la forma de reuniones y protestas adopto el "Meadowlands Approach", una ruta donde los aviones evitan la zona residencial del Ironbound cuando el estado del tiempo lo permite. En diciembre de 1980 la FAA compro un instrumento para que los pilotos pudieran guiarse se por esa ruta. "Sus promesas parecian buenas pero los pilotos no han seguido el 'Meadowlands Approach' y nadie los castagan. Un piloto que vuele arriba de nuestras casas no es repredido por los oficiales del aeropuerto," dijo Jon Dolberg.

El grupo llamado "Ironbound Airplane Committee" le concedio el honor a la primera compañia aerea, que complio con la regulación del FAA. Esta compañia es la de Peoples' Express. "Esperamos que este premio anima a las otras compañias aereas," dijo el señor Dolberg.

Si los otro aviones hicieran igual el ruido bajaria 85%.

El ruido de los aviones puede causa alta tension, alcoholismo, y problemas del corazon. Los niños del Ironbound pierden hasta 5 horas de estudio a la semana a causa del ruido. El trafico aereo de Newark afecto 27,000 personas de una manera seria.

Todo lo que Queremos Para Navidad Es:

El lunes, Diciembre 20, miembros de **SMOKE, Movimiento de Oposición a Matar el Medio Ambiente a lo ancho del Estado** presentaron una gran tarjeta de Navidad al Comisionado Robert Hughey del Departamento de Protección Ambiental (DEP). La tarjeta de Navidad preguntaba por un regalo especial - un método de desechos de basura que no contamine ni el aire que respiramos ni el agua que tomamos. Miembros de **SMOKE** de Sayreville, East Brunswick, Rockaway Township y Newark se unieron para presentar esta carta.

En el pasado, New Jersey dependía de desechos de basura para rellenar tierras. Caso tras caso, químicos tóxicos fueron descubiertos mesclados con la basura, y después de un corto periodo, ellos, los químicos tóxicos se escurrieron por la tierra y contaminaron el agua que los residentes de New Jersey toman.

El gobierno del Condado ahora quiere que los desechos de basura sean quemados. Esto va a causar varios problemas y no elimina la necesidad de los rellenos de tierra. Todos los encineradores de basura han sido examinados tanto en Estados Unidos como en Europa y se ha emitido el mortal químico dioxido. Un encinerador en Hempstead, Long Island fué cerrado porque el dióxido se iba para el aire. El olor de la planta hacia que la gente se enfermara en un centro mercantil a una milla y media de distancia.



*Comisionado Robert Hughey del Departamento de Protección Ambiental (DEP) e Susan Wisniewski, un miembro de **SMOKE**.*

SMOKE no quiere que el aire que se suple en New Jersey venga a ser ademas contaminado con químicas que causen cáncer, defectos de nacimientos, daños del riñón y el hígado y otras serias enfermedades. De acuerdo con el grupo, "El DEP debe ofrecer una solución que verdaderamente es una solución. No una que resuelva un problema solo para substituir una con otra."

"Muriendo de Cancer - y no de Vejez"

Mi nombre es Diane Turco. Yo he vivido toda mi vida en la sección de Ironbound. Yo soy hija, madre, y esposa por lo tanto me he preocupado por la salud y bienestar de mi familia y mis vecinos de Ironbound.

Investigación por la Escuela Médica de New Jersey ha indicado que el estimado de muertes de cancer en Newark está muy por encima de ambos promedios nacional e internaciona. Este descubrimiento no ha sido sorpresa para los residentes de Ironbound. Muy pocos residentes han escapado el horror de aprendisaje que un pariente o relativo tiene 'cancer'. Ninguno de nosotros ha escapado velando uno muy querido que come fuera por ésta monstruosa enfermedad mientras rezan por la muerte que está por llegar. El dolor que sufren con paciencia miembros sobrevivientes de la familia es casi inaguantable como lo es para el paciente de cáncer.

Newark está en el medio de un peligro claro y presente.

No puedo hacer llamada la última vez que atendí un velorio donde el fallecido murió de "muerte natural". Muchos de nuestras personas mayores estan muriendo de cáncer y no de "vejez".

Recientemente yo pagué una visita al director funeral local en el Ironbound quien, en el promedio anual entierra 100 de cada 150. Yo le pregunté que sacara algunos registros y lo siguiente fué lo que encontramos: de 27 registros que se sacaron desde los años 1980, 81 y 82, 15 fueron muertes de cáncer, 6 muertes por enfermedad de corazon, 4 por enfermedad del pulmón y 1 de enfermedad de los riñones.

Por comparación me puse en contacto con el director funeral de Lavalette, N.J., una comunidad a orillas del mar sin ninguna industria, sin grandes carreteras, sin factorias de pintura, o compañia farmacéuticas ni incineradores.

El director funeral señaló que residentes de toda la vida en Lavalette el no recuerda una persona que el halla enterrado por muerte de cáncer.

Investigación ha indicado que el estimado de muertes de cancer en Newark está muy por encima de ambos promedios nacional e internaciona.

Yo personalmente entrevisté 6 residentes de siempre en Lavalette con total de 27 miembros de la familia viviendo y no encontré casos de cáncer envueltos ni tampoco casos de muertes de los pulmones!

La conclución está clara. Newark está en el medio de un peligro claro y presente. La criteria estatal por donde los parajes de desperdicios tóxicos elimina casi todo el estado, señala con el dedo hacia nuestras mayores ciudades.

La idea de que Newark tiene facilidades para obtener las rutas 1&9, 280 y 24 y que estas rutas van a eliminar los camiones pesados cargando desperdicios tóxicos através de nuestras calles, no dá consideración el factor de que estas grandes carreteras tienen que ser nuestras calles! Ellos cortan através de nuestra comunidad. Algunas de nuestras casas son solamente una obra a los pies de ellos.

Nosotros vamos a estar en peligro como resultado de liquidos derramados, fuegos y explosiones como resultado de accidentes de tránsito.

Newark no tiene plan de evacuación como resultado de semejantes accidentes, Como evidencia del barco tanque el cual se quemó en Julio 27 del pasado año, conteniendo óxido de etileno. Algunos residentes vivían solo a media cuadra de ese paraje. Ellos no fueron evacuados, mientras la gente estaba en un motel a una milla de distancia! Nosotros supimos de este accidente por reporternos de la TV. Ninguna instrucción fué dada a estos residentes por alguna agencia gubernamental!

Otra vez, otro ejemplo de completo desaire por el bienestar de los residentes de Newark. Las agencias con decisiones hechas han escogido a Newark como vertedero porque los residentes no se van a quejar. Ellos no tienen recursos financieros para pelear para atrás como comparar con las areas suburbanas afluentes.

Esto no es una gran verdad. Nosotros sabemos porque tenemos estos problemas y sabemos quiene es el responsable.

La ama de casa que lava sus ventanas mas a menudo y limpia su furnitura (muebles) a diario comparado con su hermana que vive en los suburbios - *ella sabe porque!*

Los dueños de propiedades que deben pintar y reparar mas a menudo y que pagan altos estimados por seguro de fuego - *ellos saben porque!*

Cuando pagan los recibos de hospitales y funerarias - *los sobrevivientes saben porque!*

Nosotros, los residentes de Ironbound y Newark estamos enfermos, estamos cansados y no vamos a coger nada mas.

Señoras y señores, en sus deliberaciones para escoger parajes, consideren que Newark tiene todo lo que puede tolerar. Considerar además que lo que sucede en Newark le va a afectar además a usted...no importa donde viva. El aire alrededor de nosotros no conoce limites. Este va a cargar los químicos muertos hasta el escalón de tu puerta. Después de todo estas mismas contaminaciones han sido encontradas en nieve en el polo norte!

Desperdicios tóxicos situando problemas no es solamente responsabilidad de los residentes de la ciudad de Newark. Nosotros hemos derrochado nuestra parte en la sociedad por mucho tiempo. No lo vamos a permitir mas.

Ironbound Voices is a project of the Ironbound Information Center. We believe that all people are entitled to income, food, clothing, housing, education, and health care. We will print articles about groups taking steps to make this belief a reality. We will also publish information about your legal and social service rights. This issue was published with the help of:

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